Weekly work updates from February 2004 through December 2004 on the restoration of the 1895 lumber schooner *C. A. Thayer* 

May 10 - 21, 2004

Framing continues on the starboard side. All of the station frames are in, back to Frame 50. The gang is in synch and is running through these upper futtocks. The new frame futtocks are trunneled to one another, but not yet to the original floors and first futtocks. The upper futtocks are being temporarily held in place with lag screws through the ceiling planking. We note here that these screw fastenings are temporary. One of the overall objectives of this restoration is to use no threaded fastenings in the whole of the boat.

On the port side, the ribbands are on and the first new station frames are going in: every fifth frame starting at #15.

The Park team continues to look at the lower frame timbers, figuring out how to do replacements. In some cases, all that is needed is to trim an inch or two off the old butt of the floor or first futtocks. In other cases the wedges that build up the outer portion of the floor timbers will be replaced. Where the upper portions of the #1 futtocks are soft, they can often be repaired by cutting off a wedge shaped section, leaving the bottom of the original butt intact, and installing a wedge of new wood. These timbers have tended to rot from the top. In the worst cases, new lengths of upper #1 timbers, four or six feet in length, will be installed. This can only be done when the new butts thus created can be well staggered.

It is clear that the forward and after sections of sister keelson on either side, fore and aft, will have to be removed to gain access to the framing in these areas.

This modification also addressees several other items which have become clearly essential to the job. These include: 1 - Replacement of the worm shoe forward and lowering the keel amidships. 2 - Removal and replacement of sister keelson section. 3 - Removal and replacement of deadwood timbers aft. 4 - Removal and replacement of the stem post. 5 - Removal and replacement of the rest of the deteriorated framing.